

**1** Hung and Quang are talking about famous people. Listen and read.

**Hung:** The topic for tomorrow's presentation is really interesting. Have you decided who to talk about, Quang?

**Quang:** Not yet. I'm still wavering between two famous people, Steve Jobs and Michael Jackson. I admire them both.

**Hung:** But who's had a greater impact on you?

**Quang:** I'm not sure ... Steve Jobs's work stimulates my creativity and innovation, while Michael Jackson's music inspired me to learn to play a musical instrument. What do you think?

**Hung:** Well, both of them were very talented and influential, but I prefer Steve Jobs. I think Michael Jackson was a great dancer, but not an excellent singer. In his later years, his singing voice became weak and thin and wasn't as good as before.

**Quang:** I see. What about you? Who are you going to talk about?

**Hung:** Christine Ha.

**Quang:** You mean ... the lady who won the US MasterChef trophy in 2012?

**Hung:** That's right.

**Quang:** I know your dream is to become a famous chef. Is that why you want to talk about her?

**Hung:** Yes. What's more, Christine is a blind chef and a gifted writer. She's very talented and determined. It was absolutely amazing to watch her use all the kitchen tools and prepare the dishes.

**Quang:** I agree. I remember how excited I felt when Christine was creating those great-looking dishes ... and even anxious when the judges were tasting them. By the way, do you know where she was born? In Viet Nam or the US?

**Hung:** In California, but she was inspired by memories of her mum's cooking.

**Quang:** It seems you know quite a lot about her. Good luck with your presentation tomorrow!

**Hung:** The same to you!



**L**arry Stewart came from humble beginnings. Born in Mississippi in 1948, he was brought up by his grandparents. In 1971, Larry found himself jobless and starving for several days. After a free meal given by a restaurant's owner, he vowed to help others whenever he could.

Larry then moved to Kansas City, where he was fortunate enough to make money in cable television. He began helping the less fortunate in 1979, and stories of 'Secret Santa' started to emerge from the city. For over 26 years, he handed out thousands of dollars every Christmas to the needy in public places – without ever revealing his identity. The more he gave, the more stories of his generosity spread across the United States. Secret Santa became famous, yet still anonymous.

He kept his identity hidden until 2006, when he was diagnosed with cancer, which later claimed his life. Since Larry Stewart's death in 2007, his example has inspired others to continue his mission of kindness and charitable work.



**B**orn in 1988, Le Thanh Thuy was awarded the title 'Ho Chi Minh City Outstanding Young Citizen' in 2006, a year before she passed away. As soon as Thuy started high school in 2003, she was diagnosed with bone cancer and doctors decided to amputate her leg to save her life.

Thuy's repeated hospitalisations over four years did not stop her from helping other patients. Her dream was to initiate a fund to help young cancer patients. Whenever Thuy could move around, she organised different charity activities to relieve the young patients' pain. Thuy's meaningful work was welcomed and supported by the community. As a result, Thuy's Dream Programme was launched and is currently managed by *The Tuoi Tre*.

*The Tuoi Tre* has continued to hold annual events to support her programme. The most important one is the Sunflower Festival, where children and their families get together and have fun. Gifts are given to the young patients, and the memory of Thuy is kept alive by her story about love and sharing.